

Preparing to Recover

SCT Steering Committee – 7/23

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Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management*

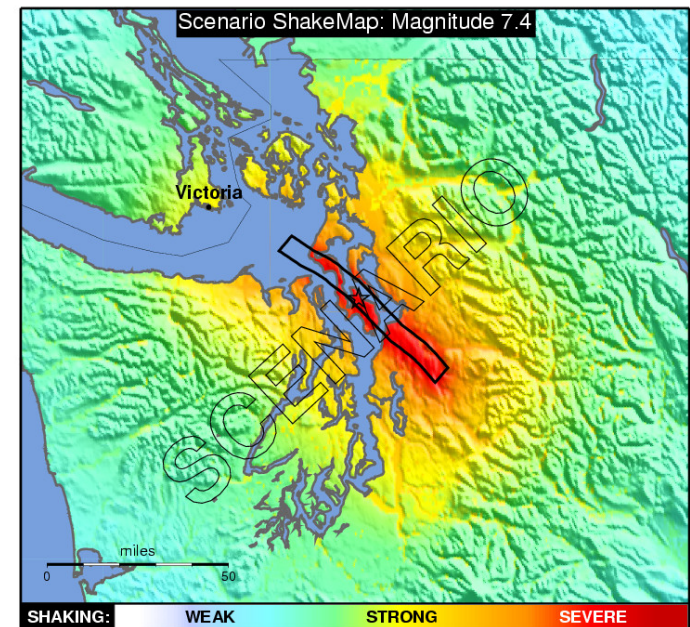
Overview

- Background
- Planning Process
- Real-world Application
- Opportunities



Background

- Original motivators
 - Departmental leadership
 - Recent catastrophes (Katrina/Rita)
 - Known local hazards
- Ongoing impetuses
 - Recurring incidents
 - Exercise participation



Challenges

- History
 - Discussions typically involve the “usual suspects”
 - Catastrophe is not in our lexicon
- Long-term commitment / turnover
- The state “bridge”
- Funding



Comparing the Catalysts

Sandy (New York)

- Advance notice > 1 week = Significant staged resources
- Relatively few casualties
 - 48 deaths
- Extensive, mostly short-term infrastructure damage
 - \$33 billion, most operational within weeks
- Enormous economic implications

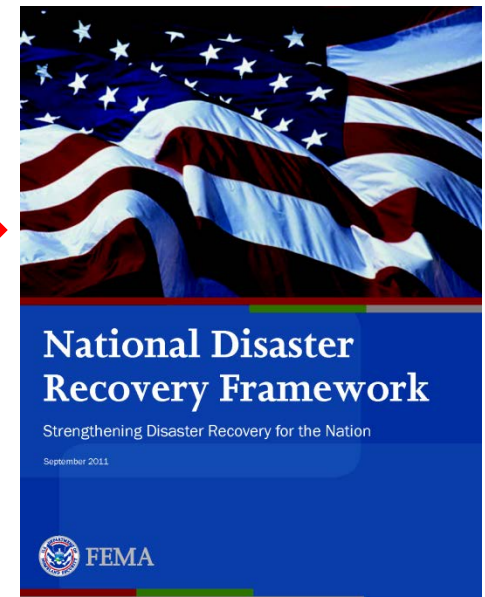
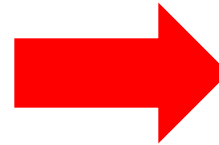
S. Whidbey Island Fault (SnoCo)*

- No warning = Waiting for additional resources
- Numerous casualties
 - ~400 deaths, 1000s injured
- Extensive, mostly long-term infrastructure damage
 - ~\$10 billion, in some cases years to repair
- Enormous economic implications

*Estimates based on FEMA's HAZUS

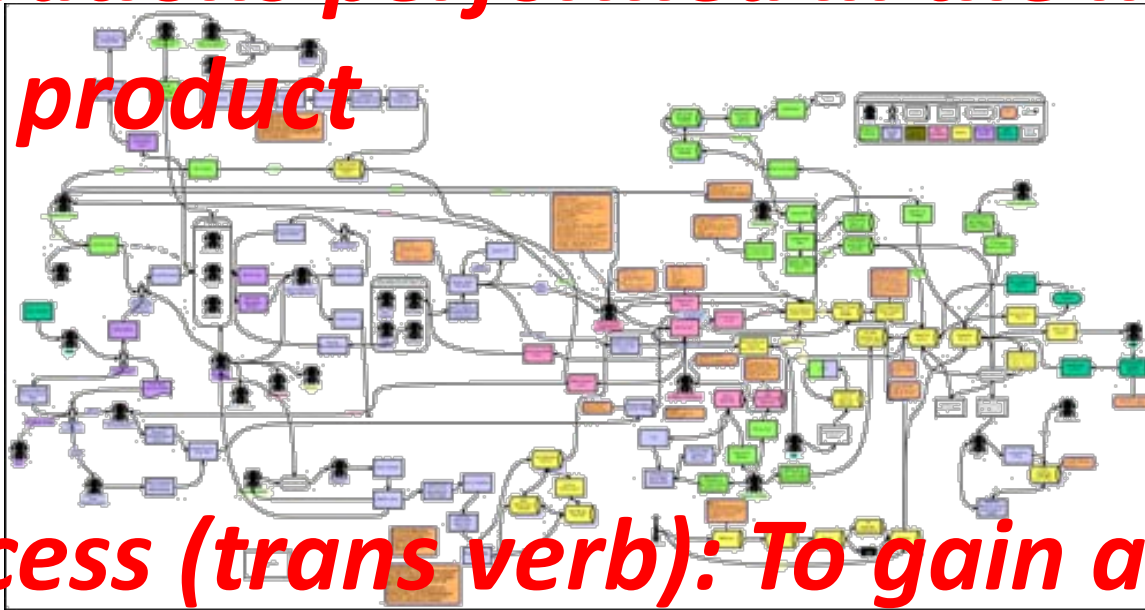
Projected Outcome

- A Framework
 - Underscoring our inter-jurisdictional partnerships
 - Involving the public and private sectors
 - Based upon a comprehensive vulnerability assessment
 - Guided by tenets outlined in the National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF)
 - Emphasizing the process



The Process

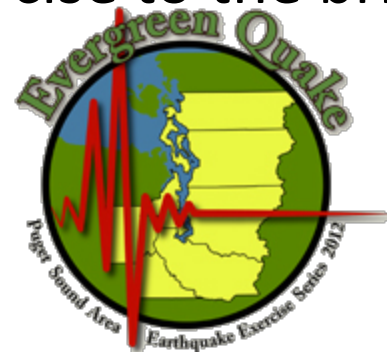
- *Process (noun): A series of operations performed in the making of a product*



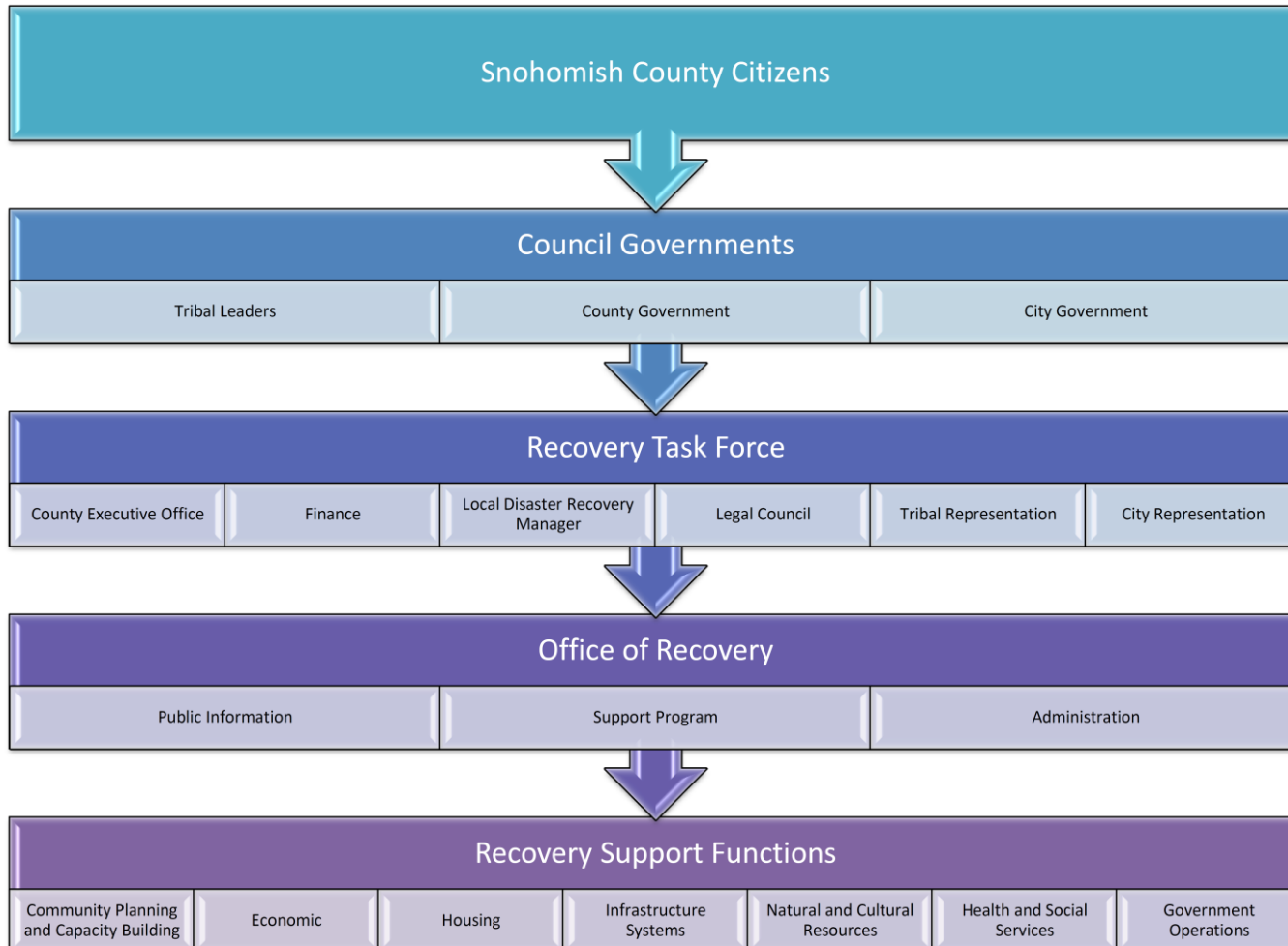
- *Process (trans verb): To gain an understanding or acceptance of; come to terms with*

Where We Were

- Planning
 - Dedicated staff to recovery
 - Utilized consulting expertise to conduct a vulnerability/gap analysis
 - Created the basis for the framework's structure
- Experience
 - Localized flooding and FEMA's assistance programs
 - Multi-jurisdictional / -agency exercise to the brink of recovery
 - Executive seminars on recovery



Organization



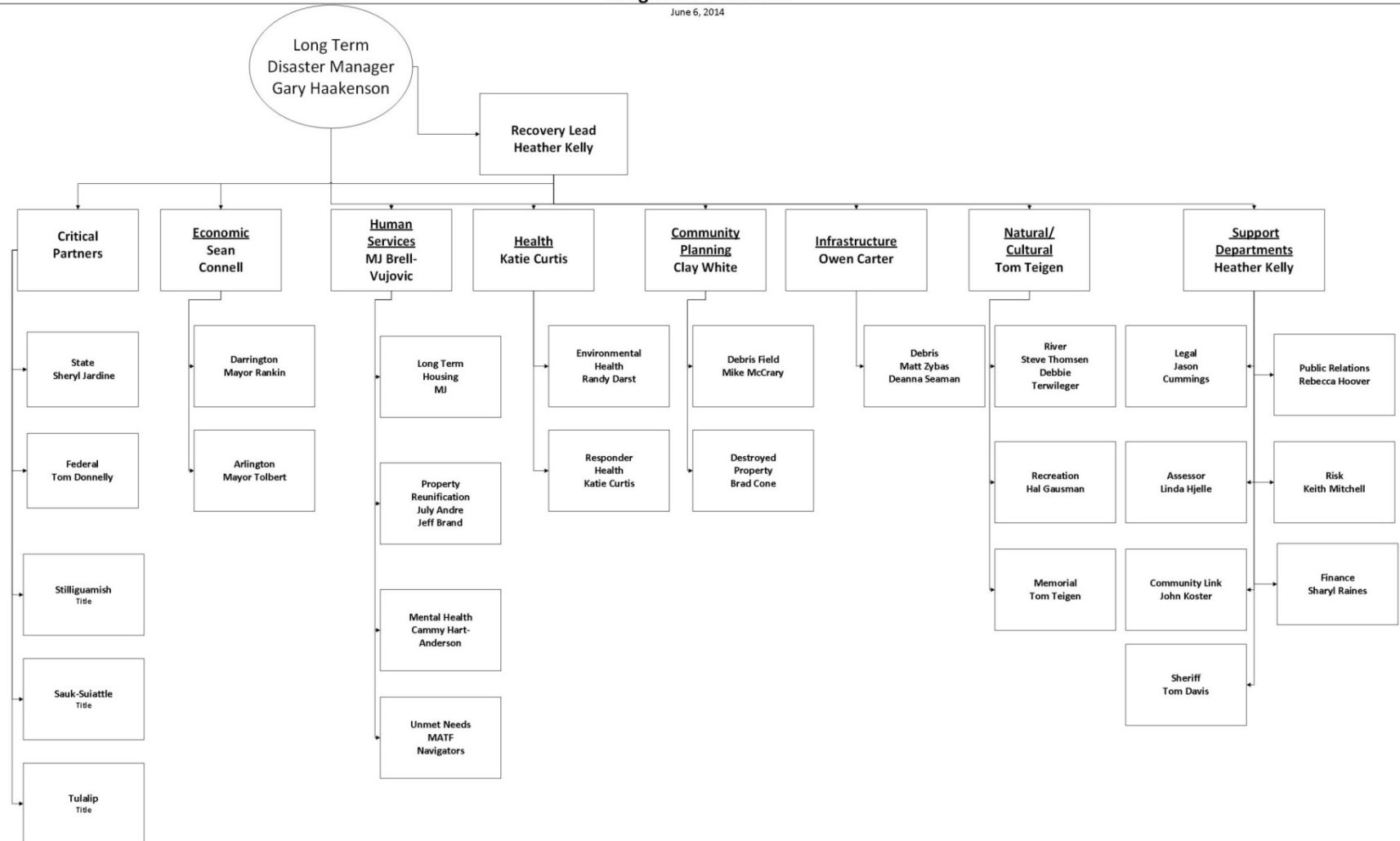
Where We Are - SnoCo Recovery Reality

- Post disaster an Office of Recovery will be established
 - Recovery planning started on day 10 of a 32 day incident, the RTF stood up on day 12. No “office” was established
 - Staff and budget
 - Staff have been “reassigned” to work recovery, no new hires
 - Budget is being addressed project by project
 - A Disaster Manager will be appointed
 - A Disaster Manager was assigned in addition to normal duties
- Emergency Management will hand off recovery to the office
 - EM is a critical component of recovery and is coordinating the RTF efforts
- A recovery plan is all hazard
 - A Recovery Framework must be flexible enough to apply to a wide variety and size of disasters

Current Recovery Org Chart

Long Term Taskforce

June 6, 2014



Roles Change

RSF Lead Infrastructure	Owen Steve	Carter Thomsen	Deputy Director Director	Snohomish County Public Works Co leads with specific focus
RSF Lead Health	Katie	Curtis	Regional Coordinator	Snohomish Health District
RSF Lead Economic	Sharyl Sean	Raines Connell	Controller Economic Development Manager	Snohomish County Finance Snohomish County Office of Economic Development
RSF Lead Housing	Robin Mary-Jane	Fenn Brell-Vujovic	Division Manager Housing Division Manager	Snohomish County Human Services
RSF Lead Community Planning	Mike Clay	McCray White	Division Manager Director	Snohomish County Planning and Development
RSF Lead Natural/Cultural	Rich Tom	Patton Teigen	Parks Ops Supervisor Director	Snohomish County Parks

Incident-Specific Objectives

- **Economic:** Develop and initiate implementation of an economic recovery/sustainment plan
- **SR 530:** Reestablish direct access between Arlington and Darrington.
- **Housing:** Facilitate reestablishment of permanent housing for displaced residents and personal belongings reunification.
- **Health:** Develop long-term plan for monitoring and addressing ongoing environmental and responder health issues.
- **Community Planning:** Develop and initiate implementation of a land use plan for the debris field and disposition of destroyed properties.
- **Infrastructure:** Verify utilities have restored or repaired services to pre-incident condition.
- **Natural/Cultural:** Develop and initiate the implementation of plans to address the long term monitoring and actions related to the environment.
- **Social:** Develop a plan to address long term unmet needs and mental health support.

Lessons Learned

- The community has a role in recovery
- Be Flexible
 - The incident will drive recovery objectives, staffing, and priorities.
 - Change the structure to meet the need
- Hold the State and FEMA CLOSE
 - Their resources and expertise are invaluable

More Lessons Learned

- Develop Policies
 - Recovery Team (Who, authorities, funding, scope)
 - Access, media, debris removal, fundraising, personal property, etc., etc.
- Funding options
 - Learn about disaster grants, understand limits, timelines, and process
 - EDA, CDBG, HMGP, NEG, etc etc....
 - Have projects identified if possible

Opportunities

- Funding
 - Emerging sources
- Growing body of knowledge
 - Subject matter experts and practitioners
 - Recovery planners' forum
- Leverage existing planning, e.g. mitigation plans, comp plans, etc.

Snohomish County

**Natural Hazard Mitigation Plan Update
Volume 1: Planning-Area-Wide Elements**

September 2010



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And More Opportunities

- Coordinate pre-planned recovery issues
 - Establishment of a local recovery organization
 - Modifications for procurement, permitting, etc.
- Buy-in from local elected officials
 - Unified voices
 - Coordinated efforts
- Emphasize resilience holistically, emphatically
 - Mitigation
 - Preparedness, especially business continuity

?Questions?